



BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF GEORGIA

A PROCLAMATION

GEORGIA HEART MONTH

- WHEREAS: Heart disease is the leading cause of death in Georgia with more than 18,000 Georgians' lives lost to heart disease each year; and
- WHEREAS: Georgia ranks number 10 out of 50 states for the highest number of deaths related to heart disease; and
- WHEREAS: Annually, there are more than 10,000 out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrests with a continued survival rate that averages at approximately 10 percent. Eighty percent of all sudden cardiac arrest victims are shown to have underlying heart disease; and
- WHEREAS: Immediate bystander-initiated cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and an early shock from an automatic external defibrillator (AED) are often essential to achieve the best outcome following sudden cardiac arrest; and
- WHEREAS: Maintaining a strong heart is conducive to a long and healthy life, and our state is committed to improving the health of all citizens; and
- WHEREAS: Keeping Georgians healthy and promoting awareness of health issues is an important responsibility that relies on the actions of many organizations to ensure positive outcomes. During Georgia Heart Month, we recognize organizations such as Better Outcomes, which works to encourage layperson, bystander-initiated CPR/AED use to improve survival rates in out-of-hospital sudden cardiac arrest incidents; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Georgia celebrates the extraordinary progress in heart health and recognizes what can be done to protect heart health for generations to come; and
- WHEREAS: Georgians are encouraged to take action to make heart health a priority and become more aware of the risks for heart disease; now
- THEREFORE: I, NATHAN DEAL, Governor of the State of Georgia, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as GEORGIA HEART MONTH in Georgia and encourage all citizens to work together to increase awareness and understanding of heart disease.

In witness thereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Executive Department to be affixed this 19th day of January in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen.



Nathan Deal

GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Chris W. Riley

CHIEF OF STAFF